

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

**In re: Patrick J. Sullivan  
Respondent**

**Complaint No. 2008-8**

**ORDER**

This matter having been heard before the Rhode Island Ethics Commission on February 10, 2009, pursuant to Commission Regulation 1011, and the Commission having considered the Complaint herein, the findings of fact, and the proposed Informal Resolution and Settlement, which is incorporated by reference herein, it is hereby

**ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED**

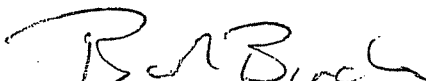
THAT, the Commission approves the Informal Resolution and Settlement; and

THAT, the Commission incorporates by reference herein its findings of fact and conclusions of law as those set forth in the Informal Resolution and Settlement; and

THAT, the Commission finds that the Respondent violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-5(e)(2); and

THAT, the Respondent is ordered to pay a civil penalty in the amount of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars.

Entered as an Order of this Commission,

  
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Barbara R. Binder  
Chairperson

Dated: February 10, 2009

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BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

**In re: Patrick J. Sullivan**

**Complaint No. 2008-8**

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**INFORMAL RESOLUTION AND SETTLEMENT**

The Respondent, Patrick J. Sullivan, and the Rhode Island Ethics Commission hereby agree to a resolution of the above-referenced matter as follows:

**A. Findings of Fact and Admissions**

1. The Respondent, the Town Solicitor for the Town of Coventry,<sup>1</sup> a municipal appointed position, was at all relevant times subject to the Code of Ethics in Government. The Respondent was appointed as Town Solicitor in January of 1997.
2. Pursuant to the Town of Coventry Charter, the duties of the judge of the Coventry Probate Court shall be performed by the Town Solicitor in the absence, disability, or disqualification of the sitting judge of the Probate Court. See Home Rule Charter, Town of Coventry, art. VI, § 6.04 (2002).
3. The Respondent served as the Acting Judge of the Coventry Probate Court on the following dates: June 28, 2007; August 22, 2007; March 13, 2008; May 16, 2008; May 22, 2008; July 24, 2008; August 19, 2008; and September 25, 2008.
4. On June 26, 2008, the Respondent entered his appearance in the matter of the Estate of Harold E. Beaudoin in the Coventry Probate Court, and appeared

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<sup>1</sup> The Respondent no longer serves as the Coventry Town Solicitor.

before said court on behalf his client on the following dates: July 10, 2008; August 13, 2008; September 3, 2008; and September 5, 2008.

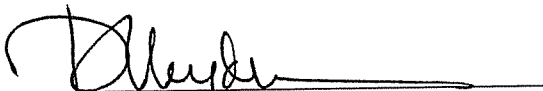
**B. Conclusions of Law**

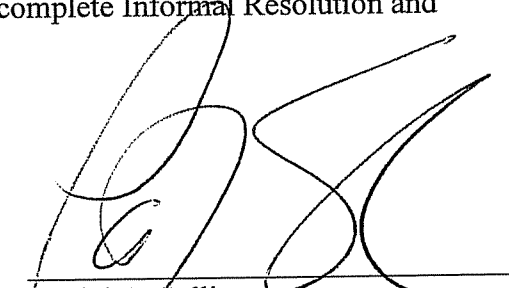
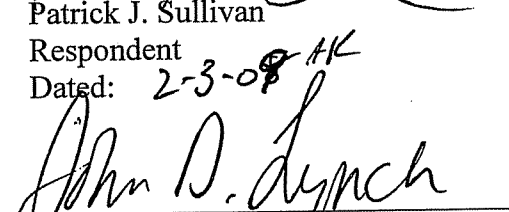
1. The Respondent, the Town Solicitor for the Town of Coventry, a municipal appointed position, was at all relevant time subject to R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-1 *et seq.*, also known as the Code of Ethics in Government.
2. The Commission finds that by appearing before the Coventry Probate Court, the Respondent violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-5(e)(2).

**C. Settlement**

Pursuant to the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the parties agree to the following:

1. The Commission will enter an Order and Judgment that the Respondent violated R.I. Gen. Laws § 36-14-5(e)(2).
2. The Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000.
3. The above terms represent the full and complete Informal Resolution and Settlement for Complaint No. 2008-8.

  
Dianne L. Leyden  
Commission Prosecutor  
Dated: 2/3/09

  
Patrick J. Sullivan  
Respondent  
Dated: 2-3-08 HK  
  
John D. Lynch, Jr., Esq.  
Counsel for Respondent  
Dated: 2-3-08